

Series - Open Topic
Topic - God's Heart For Israel

Date - 10-Nov-2019
Speaker - Ps. John Koe

WELCOME [15 min]

You may want to look up the following websites for *icebreakers* suitable for your cell.

[Ice Breakers 1](#)

[Ice Breakers 2](#)

WORSHIP [15 min]

You may select songs like

1. One Voice
2. Jesus be the Center

WORD [45 min]

Spiritual Objectives

At the end of the sermon discussion, cell members will:

1. Have a better understanding of the history of the Messianic generational line
2. Appreciate Israel as a key indicator of Christ's coming.

Sermon Summary

The following are the key points of the sermon:

1. Satan throughout the centuries have tried to end the Messianic bloodline; but time and again, God intervened.
2. Because of Christ, we have been grafted into God's family.
3. Israel is a key indicator of Jesus's future return.

Sermon Recap (Full Summary)

Ever since the fall, Satan has sought to put an end to the generational line by which the Messiah would come – Cain killing Abel, corruption of humankind during the time of Noah and the Tower of Babel, etc. But time and time again, God intervened. When Jesus arrived, everything that God promised Abraham (Genesis 22:17) was fulfilled in Christ (Galatians 3:16). As a result, the Gentiles (non-Jews) are also able to be partakers of the blessings promised to Abraham (Galatians 3:14). God did this to stir up jealousy among the Jews so that they can be propelled towards claiming the blessings for themselves (Romans 11:11). Jesus has abolished the wall separating the Jews and the Gentiles so that He might make one new man (Ephesians 2:14) in Him. Israel is an indicator of God's end-time plan because the evangelization of Israel is a sign of His coming (Matthew 23:39). Therefore, we as the

church today must pray for Israel – see Psalm 122:6 – and watch Israel as an indicator of His coming.

Discussion Questions

1. **What are some of the things in the news that have caught your attention about Israel in the last 10 years? In the light of Deuteronomy 32:9-11, how should we approach Israel?** [15 min]

Leader's Notes:

This is a relate question – to stir up discussions about Israel and to set the platform for the other discussion questions. Some interesting points to highlight:

- 20% of Nobel prize winners are Jews
- 30 of Forbes's 100 Richest People in the World are Jews
- Jews created the polio vaccine, antibiotics, responsible for creating modern banking institutions, are owners of Levi's and Macy's, invented the carpark lot, opened the first gas station, developed modern day photograph, etc.
- Israel is a key partner of Singapore (is that why we are so blessed? – Gen. 12:3)

“For the Lord's portion is His people, Jacob His allotted inheritance. In a desert land He found him, in a barren and howling waste. He shielded him and cared for him; He guarded him as the apple of His eye, like an eagle that stirs up its nest and hovers over its young, that spreads its wings to catch them and carries them aloft.” – Deuteronomy 32:9-11.

God has kept His promised to His chosen people up till this day. He has been faithful to them and has blessed them abundantly.

Side Note (Only If Needed)

If cell members raises concerns concerning Israel's unethical practices in the news, you can use the following to help divert the focus from these issues:

The government of Israel does not necessarily represent the values and ethics of God. Governments still consist of sinful individuals just like us. However, our focus should not be on determining what is right and wrong with the government. Our focus should be on the evangelization of Israel, and its well-being. That is why we should pray and be involved in reaching out to Israel, the bearer of our spiritual heritage.

Do re-direct the cell discussion if it shifts into political opinions.

Transition (Wrapping Up & Moving To The Next Question)

Israel is a very fascinating nation. Surrounded by large political powers in the Middle East, but is outrageously blessed in the midst of it. God's hand is very evident on this nation.

2. **We have seen how God has been faithful to Israel all these years. What does that tell you about the character of God? What are the implications for our lives today?**
Read Deuteronomy 7:9. [15 min]

Leader's Notes:

"Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments." – Deuteronomy 7:9

God has proved Himself to be a covenant keeping God throughout all the generations in Israel. That is part of His character – it is who He is. Therefore, we can trust God on His promises to us as believes and we can trust that He knows what He is doing. Therefore, in difficult situations in our lives, we can approach it with hope knowing that our God is a covenant keeping God.

Transition (Wrapping Up & Moving To The Next Question)

God is a covenant keeping God and we have seen this displayed throughout the history of Israel. So, let's talk about the practical side of things regarding Israel.

3. What is one thing that you can do as an individual and as a cell in light of us being a blessing to Israel? [15 min]

Leader's Notes:

Some things that you can consider adopting:

- a) Praying for Israel at every meeting*
- b) Be involved in mission works in Israel*
- c) Visit Israel to understand the nation better*
- d) Educate yourself concerning the nation.*

Transition (Wrapping Up, Vision Casting To Cell & Closing The Discussion)

Israel is definitely precious in the sight of God – see Deuteronomy 7:6-8. The church wouldn't be what it is today without our Jewish roots. The institution of the church, the kingdom value system, the Biblical examples of faith – all of these would not be there if not for the nation of Israel. We owe a great deal to our older, spiritual brother. Therefore, we should actively remember our older brother in prayer, seek opportunities to bless Israel (through missions, giving, etc) and seek to find out more about what God is doing in Israel.

WORKS [10 min]

Let's pray:

1. For the salvation of Israel
 2. For God to grant Israel Godly leaders
 3. For God to open the doors for the gospel to spread throughout Israel.
 4. **Pray for your cell's upcoming Christmas Cell Outreach**
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Cell Outreach

- Start encouraging your members to think of people they want to reach this Christmas.
- Every cell will be planning a Cell Outreach this Christmas. So, they can start thinking of ideas on how they want to do their cell outreach.
- Encourage them not to underestimate what God can do through them!

2. Water Baptism Service

Sun, 17 Nov | 2.30-5pm | Victory Chapel

31 RiverLifers will be getting baptised this Sunday. We want to give God our highest praise and honour for His work in each of their lives, leading them to get water baptised. You're invited to join us in celebration!

Church Vision

"A radiant disciple-making church catalysing Kingdom transformation in our communities and the nations."

Mission

We exist to make disciples who behold Christ and reveal Him.